

All Saints Magazine



March 2016

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

March this year is entirely taken up with lent and once again as we enter this season of penitence we are asked to think about how we respond to God and how that affects the world around us.

This year the bishop ask us to think about caring for the whole person

We are asked to support our neighbours both locally and globally through this appeal. We are asked to consider all who need God's help and how what we do even in a small way can have an impact on the world.

Particularly in Southwark diocese

Croydon Refugee Day Centre - churches together project set up over 20 years ago in response to the growing number of refugees

The Fircroft trust – Supporting those with mental health problems

The Copleston Centre – a community centre and resource

In Zimbabwe continuing the work with our link Diocese of Central Zimbabwe, Manicaland, Masvingo and Matabeleland

Supporting the building up of the church there

Increasing healthcare provided by the church through such projects as St Patricks Hospital and Simon Cyrene School

And in the Holy Land

St Luke's hospital, Nablus

Al Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital , The Gaza Strip

The Arab Evangelical Episcopal School

The Episcopal Technological and Vocational Training Centre, Ramallah

All of these causes are in need of our help so please give generously to the lent appeal, please come to our lent lunches, and please pray for all these projects

AMEN.

God Bless.

Annette.

Has Spring Sprung?

It would seem so, judging by the early blossoms.

The approach to the church at present is enhanced by the large blossom tree, which I'm sure now benefits from the removal of the lime tree.

A lady from the flats replenishes the flowers at the War Memorial regularly too.

However, have you noticed other improvements such as the painting of the Hall doors and windows, not to mention our Memorial Garden.

Now we can see a structure to it because of the clearing and tendering done by Evelyn's friend Joe. He started by assisting when the hall was painted and has now become a regular asset, even though nearly being stung by a bees nest in the hedge!

Not to be deterred he carried on with determination, encouraged by our own benefactor who keeps the edges supplied with mini daffs, pansies and cyclamen.

Now we have the beauty of the new roses, to which we can look forward, planted by Peter from patrons' subscriptions.

Of course our Garden Fund is now defunct owing to the cost of the removal of the aforesaid tree.

Perhaps we could restart a Garden Fund Collection Box. I know money is wanted at every turn these days, but wouldn't it be worth it to be uplifted throughout the year by a neat garden - even when the blossom has gone?

B. M. Whyte

Christmas In Australia

Christmas in Australia has a rather different atmosphere. This is of course governed by the summer weather.

The first Christmas event we went to was 'Carols in the countryside', but unfortunately due to the heavy rain this turned out to be 'Carols in the Sports Stadium'. We sang carols and other Christmas songs. The most funniest thing of all was to hear someone singing, "I'm dreaming of a White Christmas".

The next event we went to was a Christmas Parade in Brisbane town centre. The theme was the 12 days of Christmas, so we even had 10 maids a milking! There were also the Nativity characters complete with 3 kings on camels, and Mary on a donkey. And of course lastly came Father Christmas.

After this we all went for a meal in a British Pub, 'The Pig and Whistle'.

On the Saturday evening we went to 'Carols on the Rifle Range'. This time the weather was good, so we sat on the grass, singing carols, accompanied by the Salvation Army band. There were also activities for the children including a bouncy castle. Fireworks concluded the evening.

The following day, (the Sunday before Christmas), there was a parade in the locality, with vintage cars, and of course once again with Father Christmas, who threw sweets to everyone.

There is a Christmas tradition where people decorate their houses with Christmas lights. On the Monday evening before Christmas we went to a particular suburb of Brisbane renowned for its Christmas lights. There were whole streets where every house was decorated. Most of the houses had every window decorated, as well as decorations on the roof and in their front gardens. One even had a snow machine and a miniature railway.

On Christmas Eve we went to Midnight Mass at St. George's Anglican church. This is rather a small church, which was opened in 1935 and holds about 100 people. From the outside it looks rather like a country church. We sang some carols before the service. It was rather odd wearing summer clothes and singing carols. (Gerald wore his shorts!). The service was pretty well the same as ours.



St Georges Anglican Church, Thorneside, Brisbane AUS

Our Christmas Day began at 7.00am, when we were woken up by our youngest grandson who made us a cup of tea.

We then went to the beach for breakfast. We had bagels with smoked salmon and cream cheese. There were quite a few families there, and everyone wishing each other Merry Christmas. We then went home and everyone opened their presents. After an enormous Christmas dinner (beef, lamb and chicken cooked on the BBQ) we relaxed before having a swim in the pool. Later we had Christmas Pudding. We spent the evening watching T.V., before going to bed about 9.00pm, the usual time people go to bed in Australia.

We certainly enjoyed our Christmas in Australia, and certainly didn't miss the cold weather.

Gerald and Rita

I thought you might like to see the Aussie version of the 12 days of Christmas, which we sang on a number of occasions.

An emu up a gum tree
2 pink galahs*
3 kookaburras laughing
4 koalas cuddling
5 kangaroos
6 brolgas* dancing
7 possums playing
8 dingoes digging
9 wombats working
10 lizards leaping
11 numbats* nagging
12 parrots prattling

* *galahs* - rose breasted cockatoo

* *brolgas* - large grey crane

* *numbat* – anteater

From the Church Times 5th Feb 2016

Historic find: the Chancellor at Hereford Cathedral, Canon Chris Pullin, examines the lost tomb of Gilbert Swinfield, who was Canon Chancellor in the late 13th century, after it was uncovered during repairs to the cathedral's Tudor walkway this week.



Having nursed a box of books belonging to Chris Pullin (Vicar at All Saints 1985 – 1992) since he left for Worcester, the above article prompted us that it was time he had them back.

We booked a few days at Holm Lacy in Herefordshire and, on the way, visited Catherine and Chris in their beautiful home in the grounds of the cathedral.



The cathedral houses a chained library. The books are chained on the front of the covers so that they can easily be opened. The spines are not named so on the end of each shelf is a list in alphabetical order of the books on that shelf. They are taken down every year and cleaned.



The cathedral is also home to the Mappa Mundi, the largest surviving complete medieval world map and is fascinating and beautiful record of how the world was once thought to be. Within the circle of the known world, Asia is towards the top (east), and Jerusalem at the centre, below the Mediterranean Sea divides Europe, to the left, from Africa. Above the circle, Christ sits in judgement.



Catherine and Chris are very well, it is hard to believe that Elizabeth is now 30, Laurence 27, Edward 25, Richard 23 and Thomas is now 19. Where have all those years gone?

Diary Dates for March 2016

Wednesday 2nd	1.30 pm	Lent Course at Methodist Church
	6.30 pm	Prayers for Lent
Thursday 3rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 4th	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch in Hall
Saturday 5th	10.00-12.00	Parish Office
Sunday 6th		MOTHERING SUNDAY
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 9th	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
	1.30 pm	Lent Course at Methodist Church
	6.30 pm	Prayers for Lent
	8.00 pm	PCC Meeting
Thursday 10th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 11th	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch in Hall
Saturday 12th	5.00-6.30 pm	Youth Club
Sunday 13th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 16th	1.30 pm	Lent Course at Methodist Church
	6.30 pm	Prayers for Lent
Thursday 17th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 18th	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch in Hall
Saturday 19th	6.00 pm	Agape Meal (Bring and Share)
Sunday 20th		PALM SUNDAY
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Monday 21st	6.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 22nd	7.00 pm	St Olave's Easter Concert
Wednesday 23rd	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
	6.30 pm	Prayers for Lent
	8.00 pm	Tenebrae Service.
Thursday 24th		MAUNDY THURSDAY
	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	8.00 pm	Holy Communion with Foot washing followed by Maundy watch
Friday 25th		GOOD FRIDAY
	10.00 am	Walk of Witness From Clare Corner
	10.00-12.00	Messy Church in Hall
	2.00 pm	Liturgy of the last hour

Saturday 26th 8.00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday 27th

EASTER DAY

10.00 am Holy Communion

3.00 pm Wedding of Cathy Pickett and Tom Taylor

Please check the weekly news sheet for any changes

Parish Pump

100 Club

The 100 Club prizes in February were won by Vera Owen and Joyce Leach.

Baptisms

7th February, Henry and Thomas Golding

14th February, Freya Ruby Oakes

Funerals

12th February, Bartholomew Nugent

Lent Lunches

On Fridays in Lent at 12.30 in the Hall, Soup(s) & Roll, Tea/Coffee for £5. Proceeds to the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Future Events

24th April, Annual Parochial Meeting.

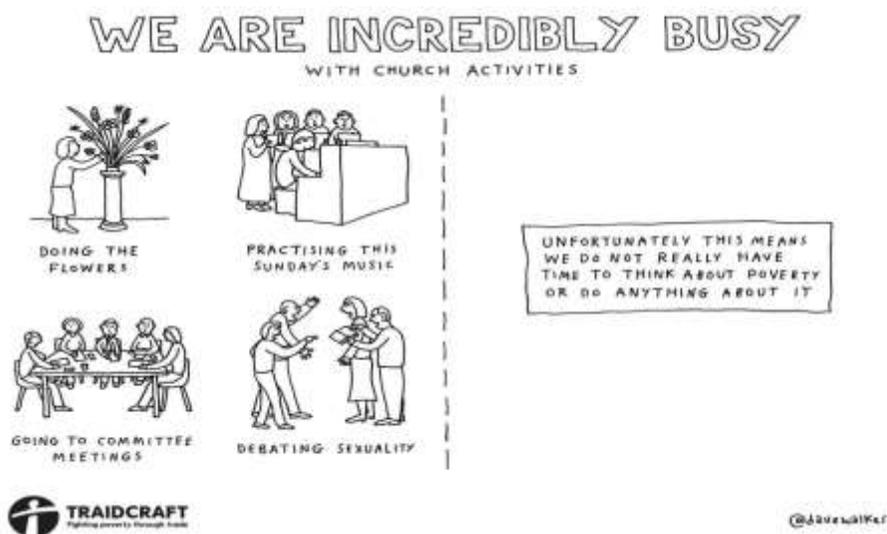
5th May, Deanery Ascension Day Service, St John the Baptist.

26th May, Deanery Corpus Christi Service, 7.30 pm Holy Trinity.

11th July, Deanery Children's and Young Persons Event.

Fair Trade

A reminder that it's Fairtrade fortnight 29th Feb-14th March, Please support your local Fairtrade suppliers.



Greetings From Robin Hood Country!

The more observant amongst you may have noticed that we haven't been around much lately. There is a fairly simple explanation for this:

Last year, Tia and Isaac auditioned for the Junior Department of the Minster School in Southwell, Nottinghamshire and were offered school places there from September 2015. Although we decided not to move at that time, the school held their places open until January. When the New Year came, we had to make a snap decision: As it meant that we would be much closer to Viv's family, and would provide exciting opportunities for the children, we decided that we should give it a go.

At the moment the move feels like something of an experiment: Viv's sister is currently living in our house in Sidcup, whilst we lodge temporarily in a spare house owned by Viv's parents. This allows us time to consider whether it is the right move for us longer-term, without cutting our London ties immediately.

Isaac is now a Junior (pre-probationer) in Southwell Minster Choir, rehearsing with them at 8AM four days a week and attending service on Tuesdays and Sundays. Meanwhile, Tia has joined the Cantamus Training Choir (one of the best children's choirs in the UK) and the local Guides. They are both enjoying spending more time with their grandparents and cousins. Luke continues to work abroad, initially in Madrid and now in Vienna, whilst Viv plies the family taxi on the half hour journey to and from school. After Easter she hopes to resume some of her singing teaching in schools with Grange Park Opera.

Due to our rapid departure, we were unable to say a proper goodbye to our friends in Sidcup and New Eltham, We have been talking to Annette about marking the occasion in some way but this requires Luke to be in the country! Having first stepped inside All Saints' almost 11 years ago, whilst on a Sunday morning walk with 3 month old Tia, we have always felt very at home there: We really value the welcome, support and friendship shown to us by so many of you and miss you all. Thankfully we will have plenty of chances to visit during the next few months, when Isaac is not on duty!

Viv, Luke, Tia and Isaac Green xxxx

Children at Work and Play

Following the random look at children at play, we consider the plight of children at work who were apprenticed to their masters at very young age. This can be seen in the evidence of high infant mortality and life expectancy from *Gravestones and Memorial Carvings which date from the 17th and 18th century. From the 16th and 17th centuries children were exploited then abandoned by their masters to the streets.

Chimney sweeps or 'climbing boys' were usually apprenticed to their masters at the age of seven or eight. Small size was important to enable them to climb up narrow chimneys, so it was also common for impoverished parents to sell children as young as four years old for twenty or thirty shillings. Many died lingering deaths from a condition known as 'sooty warts', or from suffocation.

In the spring of 1661 the diarist Samuel Pepys records that he asked several women if they would sell him their children; they refused him but said "they would give him one to keep for them."

The author of 'The Children of the Poor' in 1892 writes "No investment gives a better return than work among the children of the poor". They became 'errand boys' helping omnibus and railway passengers carry luggage, and porters and cabbies; they cleared horse manure in the busy streets. Others became street-sellers with nicknames such as 'the Cocksparrow' or 'Early Bird'.

Charles Dickens in his novels portrays London's underworld and social evils, in Oliver Twist the workhouses, in 'The Old Curiosity Shop' and in 'David Copperfield' he highlights child cruelty in schools and child labour.

In rural areas children toiled on the land with the farm labourers, and the young village girls were employed by the local gentry for menial tasks, scullery maids and laundry and kitchen hands. Mothering Sunday is the traditional day when they were excused from work and allowed to visit their mother and families.

Factories used children in often dangerous occupations in steel mills, blacking factories and, in the Midlands, the cotton mills, in the 1840's the average life expectancy of a Manchester mill girl was only 17 years. This is an average figure and is reduced by high infant mortality. Poor living conditions also contribute to the low figure.

The 19th century saw the founding of the Ragged and Industrial Schools for the children of the poor, set up by benefactors, factory owners and religious organisations. While Factory schools were established to satisfy the Factory Act of 1833 the state had no responsibility for private, religious or individual schools.

**Carvings of Charity Children are still to be seen in Holborn and Westminster. Boys playing a game of marbles above a doorway in Laurence Pountney Hill. Two children of Caode stone were placed outside St. Botolph, Bishopsgate. The Ragged Schools, source at the British Library.*

Statuettes of children by St. Mary, Rotherhithe where a 'Free School for eight sons of poor seaman' was established in 1613

Ragged schools did the most for the children of the poorest, but they did it at the cost of cutting them off from all children whose parents had the remotest claim to 'respectability'. They were seen to be so dirty, verminous and tattered that even penny-a-weekers would not mix with them.

Rural area schools were exceptional as the children of big farmers could be seen sitting on the same benches as labourers' children.

A survey of 1850 showed conditions were harsh and the system was of poor quality. The trouble was the economy, poor parents might afford the fees for some of the time, at twopence or threepence a week per child, but were reluctant to keep them at school once they were capable of earning, at around 10 years old.

The Education Act of 1870 permitted Local School Boards to establish schools and between 1876 and 1880 it became compulsory for every child between the ages of 5 to 10 years to attend school.

Later in 1891 Elementary education becomes free for all children, and that is followed in 1899 when the school leaving age is raised to 12 years.

In a further Factory Act passed in 1874 it was made illegal for a young person under 18 year olds to be employed in a full time job.

How lucky are our children today receiving an education that encourages their talents in an environment of safety and warmth.

Children at work and play are wide subjects and the writer apologises for any inaccuracies or omissions.

Rhymes for March.

March winds doth blow, and we shall have snow
And what will poor Robin do then?
He'll go in the barn to keep himself warm
And put his head under his wing, poor thing.

March brings breezes loud and shrill,
To stir the dancing daffodil.

March winds and April showers
Bring forth May flowers.

Daffodils

Wordsworth's poem, "Daffodils," is one of the most famous pieces of poetry ever. But he was not alone on the trip that inspired, "When all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils".

His sister, Dorothy, wrote in her diary, "I never saw daffodils so beautiful. They grew among the mossy stones about them. Some rested their heads on the stones, as on a pillow, for weariness; the rest tossed and danced, and seemed as if they verily laughed with the wind that blew over the lake.

Isn't it reassuring to know that you don't have to be a great poet in order to appreciate great beauty?

Friendship Book 2015

From the Archives – as we don't have a copy of the March 1936 magazine, so here is an extract from Mr. Pond's archive book for the time.

A mark of appreciation from Fr. Norledge.

I have now been with you for ten years and I can say in all sincerity they have been ten of the happiest years of my ministry and of my life.

Much has happened over the ten years. Our population has grown from under 3,000 to nearly 10,000. We have seen new roads and streets added every year. All Saints was constituted a separate parish upon the consecration of the new Chancel and Lady Chapel in May 1931. This extension increased our seating capacity from 350 to 500. The struggle to raise the money for building is an old story but it may interest our new residents to know that during the ten years, we have spent some £8,000 on building, £5,000 of which we have raised ourselves.

I have been supported all through this great effort by a loyal band of willing workers and it has been a great joy to me to have been privileged to lead so willing and keen a body of fellow workers.

In 1929 we had a very successful Parish Mission conducted by Brother Edward and his splendid assistants. This Mission had lasting results and was a great help to our people in many ways. Since 1929 our population has practically doubled so that many of our people have not had the help and experience that such a Mission gives.

Our coming Mission will give just that opportunity and we are looking forward to a real and lasting revival in the spiritual life of the parish.

The "Church Logbook" for early 1976 records:

A.P.M. Mrs. Sylvia Mayhew elected as new P.C.C. Secretary. Churchwardens Mrs. May Lees and Mr. Len Highmore continue in office.

We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.